



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL

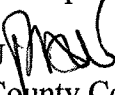
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February 4, 2015

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TO: PATRICK OGAWA  
Acting Executive Officer  
Board of Supervisors  
  
Attention: Agenda Preparation

FROM: PATRICK A. WU   
Senior Assistant County Counsel  
Executive Office

RE: **Item for the Board of Supervisors' Agenda**  
**County Claims Board Recommendation**  
**Reina Maribel Campos, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.**  
**United States District Court Case No. CV 11-09613**

Attached is the Agenda entry for the Los Angeles County Claims Board's recommendation regarding the above-referenced matter. Also attached are the Case Summary and the Summary Corrective Action Plan to be made available to the public.

It is requested that this recommendation, the Case Summary, and the Summary Corrective Action Plan be placed on the Board of Supervisors' agenda.

PAW:cs

Attachments

## Board Agenda

### MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS

Los Angeles County Claims Board's recommendation: Authorize settlement of the matter entitled Reina Maribel Campos, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al., United States District Court Case No. CV 11-09613, in the amount of \$350,000 and instruct the Auditor-Controller to draw a warrant to implement this settlement from the Sheriff's Department's budget.

This lawsuit concerns allegations of negligence by Sheriff's Deputies relating to the serious medical needs of an inmate resulting in his suicide.

## CASE SUMMARY

### INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Reina Maribel Campos, et al. v. COLA, et al.
CASE NUMBER	CV 11-09613 DDP (PJWx)
COURT	United States District Court
DATE FILED	November 18, 2011
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Sheriff's Department
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 350,000
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Kaye, McLane & Bednarski
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Millicent L. Rolon
NATURE OF CASE	<p>Plaintiffs Reina Maribel Campos and Blanca Cardenas filed a lawsuit alleging federal civil rights and State law claims and contend that the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department was deliberately indifferent to the serious medical needs of Steven Cardenas, resulting in his suicide at Men's Central Jail.</p> <p>Due to the risks and uncertainties of litigation, a reasonable settlement at this time will avoid further litigation costs. Therefore, a full and final settlement of the case in the amount of \$350,000 is recommended.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$ 80,164
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$ 10,020



## Summary Corrective Action Plan

The intent of this form is to assist departments in writing a corrective action plan summary for attachment to the settlement documents developed for the Board of Supervisors and/or the County of Los Angeles Claims Board. The summary should be a specific overview of the claims/lawsuits' identified root causes and corrective actions (status, time frame, and responsible party). This summary does not replace the Corrective Action Plan form. If there is a question related to confidentiality, please consult County Counsel.

Date of incident/event:	Tuesday, October 5, 2010; approximately 5:25 a.m.
Briefly provide a description of the incident/event:	<p><b><u>Reina Maribel Campos, et al. v. County of Los Angeles, et al.</u></b> Summary Corrective Action Plan No. 2014-035</p> <p>On May 12, 2007, the decedent was sentenced to 21 years in prison for assault with a deadly weapon on a peace officer.</p> <p>On August 27, 2010, he was convicted of carjacking and assault with a deadly weapon. He was scheduled to be sentenced October 8, 2010.</p> <p>On October 5, 2010, the decedent was found hanging in his cell. He had committed suicide.</p>

1. Briefly describe the **root cause(s)** of the claim/lawsuit:

The root cause in this incident is the decedent's death by suicide.

2. Briefly describe recommended corrective actions:  
(Include each corrective action, due date, responsible party, and any disciplinary actions if appropriate)

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department had relevant policies and procedures/protocols in effect at the time of the incident.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's training curriculum addresses the circumstances which occurred in the incident.

This incident was investigated by representatives from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's Men's Central Jail and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's Homicide Bureau. No criminal misconduct is alleged, and no employee misconduct is suspected. Consequently, no personnel-related administrative action was taken, and no other personnel-related corrective action measures are contemplated.

This incident is currently under review by representatives from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's Risk Management Bureau and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's Custody Support Services Unit. This process also will consult representatives from the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's Department of Mental Health Liaison (staff), the United States Department of Justice, the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's Constitutional Policing Advisor.

County of Los Angeles  
Summary Corrective Action Plan

On or before June 30, 2015, this corrective action plan will be supplemented with a report to include 1) the results of the review and 2) the scheduled implementation date of new or revised policies, procedures, and/or protocols, Department publications, and/or directives.

3. Are the corrective actions addressing department-wide system issues?

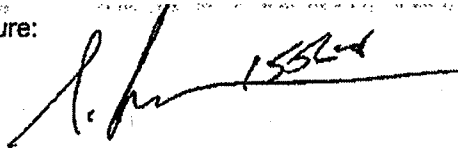
- ☐ Yes – The corrective actions address department-wide system issues.  
☒ No – The corrective actions are only applicable to the affected parties.

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

Name: (Risk Management Coordinator)

Scott E. Johnson, Captain  
Risk Management Bureau

Signature:



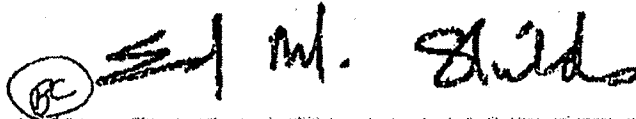
Date:

12-18-14

Name: (Department Head)

Earl M. Shields, Chief  
Professional Standards Division

Signature:



Date:

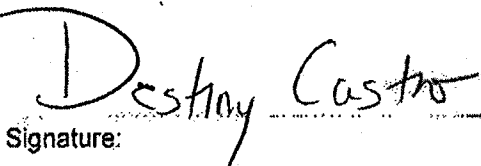
12/22/14

Chief Executive Office Risk Management Inspector General USE ONLY

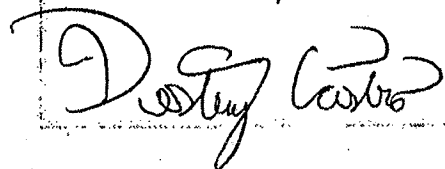
Are the corrective actions applicable to other departments within the County?

- ☒ Yes, the corrective actions potentially have County-wide applicability.  
☐ No, the corrective actions are applicable only to this department.

Name: (Risk Management Inspector General)



Signature:



Date:

12/22/2014